



# General Assembly

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**Seventy-third session  
Special Political and Decolonization Committee  
(Fourth Committee)**

## Organization of work

### Note by the Chair

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for consideration are listed in document A/C.4/73/L.1. Background information on those items, including references to related documentation, is set out in the annotated preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-third session (A/73/100).<sup>1</sup>
2. The General Assembly, in rule 99, paragraph (b), of its rules of procedure, calls upon each Main Committee to adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated for the consideration of each item.
3. The General Assembly decided that the seventy-third session should recess on Monday, 17 December 2018, and that, inter alia, the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) should complete its work by Friday, 16 November 2018 (see A/73/250, paras. 21 and 22).
4. To that end, the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) may wish to consider adopting as a provisional guideline the approximate dates set out below for the consideration of the items on its agenda with the understanding that they may be revised periodically, as appropriate. The Committee will also consider certain items on its agenda jointly in order to ensure the full and efficient utilization of the conference facilities allocated to it. As indicated below, the conference services have allocated 26 meetings to the Committee and have urged the Committee to make every effort to complete its work within the time allotted. Should the Committee wish to change the dates on which it considers items, it would still have to work within the dates and times indicated below.

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<sup>1</sup> For the final list of agenda items adopted by the General Assembly, see A/73/251.



**Week of 1-5 October**

**Thursday, 4 October**

10 a.m.

**Election of the officers of the Main Committees (item 5)**

Election of the Chair of the Committee for the seventy-third session of the General Assembly

Organization of work

Approval of programme of work

Approval of time limits for statements

Establishment of the Working Group of the Whole on outer space

Consideration of aide-memoire containing requests to petition on Non-Self-Governing Territories

**Week of 8-12 October**

**Monday, 8 October**

3 p.m.

Introductory statements and joint general debate on decolonization items:

**Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations (item 59)**

**Economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 60)**

**Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (item 61)**

**Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 62)**

**Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 63)**

Approval of requests to petition on Non-Self-Governing Territories

6 p.m.

Closure of the list of speakers on decolonization items

Deadline for submission of proposals on decolonization items

**Tuesday, 9 October**

3 p.m.

Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):

Statements by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories as well as petitions on Non-Self-Governing Territories approved to be heard by the Committee

**Wednesday, 10 October**

3 p.m.

Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):

Date/time

Programme

Statements by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories as well as petitions on Non-Self-Governing Territories approved to be heard by the Committee

**Thursday, 11 October**

3 p.m.

Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):

Statements by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories as well as petitions on Non-Self-Governing Territories approved to be heard by the Committee

**Friday, 12 October**

3 p.m.

Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):

Statements by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories as well as petitions on Non-Self-Governing Territories approved to be heard by the Committee

**Week of 15–19 October****Monday, 15 October**

10 a.m.

Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):

Joint general debate on decolonization items (*continued*)

**Tuesday, 16 October**

10 a.m.

Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):

Joint general debate on decolonization items (*concluded*)

Action on proposals submitted under decolonization items

**Thursday, 18 October**

10 a.m.

Introductory statement, interactive dialogue and general debate on:

**Questions relating to information (item 58)**

6 p.m.

Closure of the list of speakers on item 58

**Friday, 19 October**

10 a.m.

**Questions relating to information (item 58)**

General debate (*concluded*)

Action on proposals

**Week of 22–26 October****Tuesday, 23 October**

3 p.m.

Introductory statement and general debate on:

**International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 53)**

| Date/time                                 | Programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                           | Working Group of the Whole on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Wednesday, 24 October</b>              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 3 p.m.                                    | <b>International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 53)</b><br>General debate ( <i>continued</i> )<br>Working Group of the Whole on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space ( <i>continued</i> )                        |
| <b>Thursday, 25 October</b>               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 10 a.m.                                   | <b>International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 53)</b><br>General debate ( <i>concluded</i> )<br>Working Group of the Whole on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space ( <i>concluded</i> )<br>Action on proposals |
| <b>Friday 26 October</b>                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 3 p.m.                                    | Introductory statement, interactive dialogue and action on proposal on:<br><b>University for Peace (item 51)</b>                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Week of 29 October–<br/>2 November</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Tuesday, 30 October</b>                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 10 a.m.                                   | Introductory statement, interactive dialogue and general debate on:<br><b>Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 56)</b>                                                                               |
| 1 p.m.                                    | Closure of the list of speakers on item 56                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Wednesday, 31 October</b>              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 10 a.m.                                   | <b>Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 56)</b><br>General debate ( <i>continued</i> )                                                                                                               |
| <b>Thursday, 1 November</b>               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 10 a.m.                                   | <b>Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 56)</b><br>General debate ( <i>continued</i> )                                                                                                               |
| <b>Friday, 2 November</b>                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 10 a.m.                                   | <b>Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 56)</b><br>General debate ( <i>concluded</i> )                                                                                                               |

| <i>Date/time</i>              | <i>Programme</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Week of 5-9 November</b>   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Monday, 5 November</b>     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3 p.m.                        | Introductory statements, interactive dialogue, general debate and action on proposal on:<br><br><b>Comprehensive review of special political missions (item 57)</b>                                                                                                 |
| <b>Tuesday, 6 November</b>    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3 p.m.                        | Introductory statements, general debate and action on proposal on:<br><br>Effects of atomic radiation (item 52)                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Wednesday, 7 November</b>  | Diwali                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Friday, 9 November</b>     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3 p.m.                        | Introductory statement, question-and-answer period and general debate on:<br><br><b>United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 54)</b>                                                                                    |
| 6 p.m.                        | Deadline for submission of proposals on item 54 and item 55<br>Deadline for submission of proposals on all outstanding items                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Week of 12-16 November</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Monday, 12 November</b>    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 10 a.m.                       | <b>United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 54)</b><br><br>General debate ( <i>concluded</i> )                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Tuesday, 13 November</b>   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3 p.m.                        | Introductory statement, question-and-answer period and general debate on:<br><br><b>Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 55)</b> |
| <b>Wednesday, 14 November</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 10 a.m.                       | <b>Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 55)</b><br><br>General debate ( <i>continued</i> )                                       |
| <b>Thursday, 15 November</b>  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 10 a.m. (if needed)           | <b>Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 55)</b><br><br>General debate ( <i>concluded</i> )                                       |

**Friday, 16 November**

10 a.m.

**United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 54)**

**Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 55)**

Introduction of and action on proposals

Action on proposals on all outstanding agenda items

**Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (item 123)**

Proposed programme of work and timetable for the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly and consideration of working methods

**Programme planning (item 137)**

Conclusion of the work of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for the main part of the session

5. In the preparation of the timetable above, the Chair was guided by the following considerations:

(a) In accordance with established procedures and practices and bearing in mind the availability of documentation, the Committee may wish to hold one general debate covering agenda items 59 to 63 and individual debates on agenda items 51 to 57, 123 and 137, on the understanding that draft resolutions and/or decisions will be considered separately;

(b) Representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories and petitioners will be heard as early as possible during the Committee's consideration of the related items, and the Chair suggests that the Committee devote its meetings from Tuesday to Friday, 9 to 12 October, to the hearing of petitioners;

(c) Item 123, Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, is allocated to all the Main Committees for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on their respective tentative programme of work;

(d) Item 137, Programme planning, is allocated to all the Main Committees and the plenary of the General Assembly to enhance the discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports. If the Assembly allocates any report submitted under this item to the Fourth Committee, the Committee shall revert to this item.

6. Subject to the provisional programme of work above being acceptable to the Committee and in order to facilitate its work, the Chair wishes to suggest that the list of speakers in the general debate covering the following agenda items be closed as follows:

Items 59 to 63: Monday, 8 October, at 6 p.m.

Item 58: Thursday, 18 October, at 1 p.m.

Item 56: Tuesday, 30 October, at 1 p.m.

The Committee will take decisions on the closure of the list of speakers relating to the general debates on the remaining items at the appropriate time.

7. The Chair also wishes to draw the attention of members of the Committee to the decisions of the General Assembly on the organization of its work contained in document A/73/250, sections II.B to III.

8. Members are also requested to bear in mind the decision of the General Assembly that morning and afternoon meetings should start promptly at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., respectively, both for plenary meetings and for meetings of the Main Committees during the seventy-third session. The attention of the members is also drawn to the decision of the Assembly to waive, at its seventy-third session, the quorum required, under rule 108 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, for the Chair to declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed (see A/73/250, para. 28).

9. In view of the limited number of meetings available to the Committee, it is suggested that the time limit for statements be set at 10 minutes, with the exception of statements made by the spokespersons of groups of delegations, which would be extended to 15 minutes. In this connection, the Chair will set the time limit for the petitioners as it is deemed necessary.

10. The list of documents submitted under the various agenda items allocated to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) is contained in document A/C.4/73/INF/1, which will be updated as necessary.

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**Seventy-third session**  
**Special Political and Decolonization Committee**  
**(Fourth Committee)**  
Agenda item 62  
**Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for**  
**inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories**

**Argentina, Liberia and Singapore: draft resolution**

**Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for**  
**inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 72/94 of 7 December 2017,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>1</sup> prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

*Conscious* of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Strongly convinced* that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>1</sup>
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;
3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;
4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to

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<sup>1</sup> A/73/73.



provide all the facilities necessary to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

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**Seventy-third session****Special Political and Decolonization Committee  
(Fourth Committee)**

Agenda item 63

**Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of  
Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples****Draft resolution submitted by the Chair****Question of Western Sahara***The General Assembly,**Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,**Reaffirming* the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,*Recalling* its resolution 72/95 of 7 December 2017,*Recalling also* all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,*Recalling further* Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990, 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002, 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004, 1570 (2004) of 28 October 2004, 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005, 1634 (2005) of 28 October 2005, 1675 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1720 (2006) of 31 October 2006,*Underlining* the adoption of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007) on 30 April 2007, 1783 (2007) on 31 October 2007, 1813 (2008) on 30 April 2008, 1871 (2009) on 30 April 2009, 1920 (2010) on 30 April 2010, 1979 (2011) on 27 April 2011, 2044 (2012) on 24 April 2012, 2099 (2013) on 25 April 2013, 2152 (2014) on

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\* Reissued for technical reasons on 15 October 2018.



29 April 2014, 2218 (2015) on 28 April 2015, 2285 (2016) on 29 April 2016, 2351 (2017) on 28 April 2017 and 2414 (2018) on 27 April 2018,

*Expressing its satisfaction* that the parties met on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara and in the presence of the neighbouring countries and that they have agreed to continue the negotiations,

*Also expressing its satisfaction* at the holding of nine informal meetings convened by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on 9 and 10 August 2009 in Dürnstein, Austria, on 10 and 11 February 2010 in Westchester County, New York, United States of America, from 7 to 10 November 2010, from 16 to 18 December 2010 and from 21 to 23 January 2011, all on Long Island, New York, from 7 to 9 March 2011 in Mellieha, Malta, from 5 to 7 June 2011 and from 19 to 21 July 2011, both on Long Island, and from 11 to 13 March 2012 in Manhasset, New York, to prepare for the fifth round of negotiations,

*Calling upon* all the parties and the States of the region to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy and with each other,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara,

*Welcoming*, in this regard, the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara,

*Having examined* the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2018,<sup>1</sup>

*Having also examined* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>2</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>2</sup>

2. *Supports* the process of negotiations initiated by Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) and further sustained by Council resolutions 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012), 2099 (2013), 2152 (2014), 2218 (2015), 2285 (2016), 2351 (2017) and 2414 (2018), with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, and commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for Western Sahara in this respect;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue, in order to enter into a more intensive phase of negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions, noting efforts and developments since 2006, thus ensuring the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007), 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012), 2099 (2013), 2152 (2014), 2218 (2015), 2285 (2016), 2351 (2017) and 2414 (2018) and the success of negotiations;

4. *Also welcomes* the ongoing negotiations between the parties held on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/73/23), chap. VIII.*

<sup>2</sup> A/73/219.

16 to 18 March 2008 in the presence of the neighbouring countries and under the auspices of the United Nations;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and calls upon them to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.



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Seventy-third session  
Special Political and Decolonization Committee  
(Fourth Committee)

Agenda item 53

**International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space**

**Mexico: \* draft resolution**

**International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004, 61/110 and 61/111 of 14 December 2006, 62/101 of 17 December 2007, 62/217 of 22 December 2007, 65/97 of 10 December 2010, 65/271 of 7 April 2011, 66/71 of 9 December 2011, 67/113 of 18 December 2012, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 68/74 and 68/75 of 11 December 2013, 69/85 of 5 December 2014, 70/1 of 25 September 2015, 70/82 of 9 December 2015, 70/230 of 23 December 2015, 71/90 of 6 December 2016, and 72/77 and 72/78 of 7 December 2017,

*Emphasizing* the significant progress in the development of space science and technology and their applications that has enabled humans to explore the universe, and the extraordinary achievements made in space exploration efforts, including deepening the understanding of the planetary system and the Sun and the Earth itself, in the use of space science and technology for the benefit of all humankind and in the development of the international legal regime governing space activities,

*Recognizing*, in that regard, the unique platform at the global level for international cooperation in space activities represented by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee and assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat,

*Deeply convinced* of the common interest of all humankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all humankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all Member States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

*Reaffirming* the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of international law, including the relevant norms of international space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space

\* In its capacity as Chair of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.



for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges, especially for developing countries,

*Seriously concerned* about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,<sup>1</sup>

*Recognizing* that all Member States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the prevention of an arms race in outer space with a view to promoting and strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Deeply concerned* about the fragility of the space environment and the challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, in particular the impact of space debris, which is an issue of concern to all nations,

*Noting* the progress achieved in the development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, and the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in space,

*Convinced* that space science and technology and their applications, including satellite communications, Earth observation systems and satellite navigation technologies, provide indispensable tools for viable long-term solutions for sustainable development and can contribute more effectively to efforts to promote the development of all countries and regions of the world, and stressing in that regard the need to harness the benefits of space technology towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>2</sup>

*Seriously concerned* about the devastating impact of disasters,<sup>3</sup> and desirous of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services and geospatial information for all countries and facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries,

*Firmly convinced* that the use of space science and technology and their applications in areas such as tele-health, tele-education, disaster management, environmental protection, natural resources management and ocean and climate monitoring contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development, particularly poverty eradication,

*Deeply concerned* about the devastating effects of infectious diseases, including Ebola virus disease, to the detriment of human life, society and development, and urging the international community to enhance the role of space-based solutions, in particular tele-epidemiology, in monitoring, preparedness and response activities,

*Recalling* the fact that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, recognized the important role that space science and technology play in promoting sustainable development,<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>3</sup> The term "disasters" refers to natural or technological disasters.

<sup>4</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex, para. 274.

*Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its sixty-first session,*<sup>5</sup>

1. *Endorses the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its sixty-first session;*<sup>6</sup>

2. *Agrees that the Committee, at its sixty-second session, should consider the substantive items and convene the working group recommended at its sixty-first session,<sup>6</sup> including holding intersessional consultations as necessary, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;*

3. *Notes that, at its fifty-seventh session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work,<sup>7</sup> as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 72/77;*

4. *Agrees that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-eighth session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,<sup>8</sup> including holding intersessional consultations as necessary, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;*

5. *Urges Member States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space<sup>9</sup> to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties in accordance with their national law, as well as incorporating them into their national legislation;*

6. *Notes with satisfaction that the space law curriculum developed by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat and published in all official languages of the United Nations could encourage further studies within Member States in cooperation with relevant entities in support of capacity-building efforts in space law and policy;*

7. *Takes note of the report of the Working Group on the Review of International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space on the work conducted under its multi-year workplan,<sup>10</sup> as finalized at the fifty-sixth session of the Legal Subcommittee, and notes that the report provides an important source of information and useful guidance for further joint undertakings by spacefaring nations and emerging space nations, as appropriate;*

8. *Notes that, at its fifty-fifth session, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work,<sup>11</sup> as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 72/77;*

<sup>5</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/73/20).*

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 384.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III.D; see also A/AC.105/1177.

<sup>8</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/73/20), paras. 290-291.*

<sup>9</sup> Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 672, No. 9574); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 961, No. 13810); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1023, No. 15020); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1363, No. 23002).

<sup>10</sup> A/AC.105/C.2/112.

<sup>11</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/73/20), chap. III.C; see also A/AC.105/1167.*

9. *Agrees* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its fifty-sixth session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,<sup>12</sup> including holding intersessional consultations as necessary, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

10. *Reiterates* the importance of information-sharing in discovering, monitoring and physically characterizing potentially hazardous near-Earth objects to ensure that all countries, in particular developing countries with limited capacity for predicting and mitigating a near-Earth object impact, are aware of potential threats, emphasizes the need for capacity-building for effective emergency response and disaster management in the event of a near-Earth object impact, and notes with satisfaction the work carried out by the International Asteroid Warning Network and the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group to strengthen international cooperation to mitigate the potential threat posed by near-Earth objects, with the support of the Office, serving as the permanent secretariat of the Advisory Group;<sup>13</sup>

11. *Notes with appreciation* that some Member States are already implementing space debris mitigation measures on a voluntary basis, through national mechanisms and consistent with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee and with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,<sup>14</sup> endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/217, and invites other States to implement, through relevant national mechanisms, the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

12. *Considers* that it is essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of the gradually increasing probability of collisions of space objects, especially those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

13. *Urges* all Member States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

14. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, and agrees that the Committee should continue to consider the broader perspective of space security and associated matters that would be instrumental in ensuring the safe and responsible conduct of space activities, including ways to promote international, regional and interregional cooperation to that end;

15. *Decides* to convene a joint half-day panel discussion of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee) and the Special Political and

<sup>12</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/73/20), paras. 215-217.*

<sup>13</sup> *See A/AC.105/1138, paras. 205-210.*

<sup>14</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/62/20), annex.*

Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), to address possible challenges to space security and sustainability, and to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space", a sub-item entitled "Joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability";<sup>15</sup>

16. *Emphasizes* the central role of the Office in promoting international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space for economic, social and scientific development, in particular for the benefit of developing countries;

17. *Notes with satisfaction* the programme of work undertaken by the Office in 2018 to strengthen international cooperation in the conduct of space activities for peaceful purposes and the use of space science and technology and their applications towards the achievement of the internationally agreed Sustainable Development Goals, including the workshops and symposiums conducted to build capacity, the assistance provided to developing countries, at their request, in the development of national space policy and legislation in conformity with international space law, and actions implemented to strengthen institutional capacity in space activities;

18. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the activities being carried out by the Office to promote gender equality and the increased role of women in space activities, including through targeted capacity-building and technical advisory activities, and efforts to encourage enhanced involvement of women and girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, and invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to those activities;

19. *Requests* the Office to continue to apprise the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee, at their respective sessions in 2019, of the status of its capacity-building activities;

20. *Recognizes* the capacity-building activities under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, which provide unique benefits for Member States, in particular developing countries, participating in those activities;<sup>16</sup>

21. *Notes with satisfaction* the activities carried out under the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), and recognizes the significant achievements made and the advisory support provided to Member States within the framework of UN-SPIDER since its establishment in 2006<sup>17</sup> with the valuable contributions of its network of regional support offices, and encourages Member States, on a voluntary basis, to provide the programme with the additional resources necessary to address the increasing demand for support successfully and in a timely manner;

22. *Reiterates* the importance of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>18</sup> in which the value of space-based technology and Earth observation for disaster management and emergency response is recognized, and notes with satisfaction the efforts of the Office and its UN-SPIDER programme towards promoting international cooperation as a way to enhance the use of space-based technologies and related services at the national and local levels in contributing to the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>2</sup>

23. *Notes with satisfaction* the continuous progress made by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems with the support of the Office, in

<sup>15</sup> Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/73/20)*, para. 385.

<sup>16</sup> See A/AC.105/1167, sect. II.

<sup>17</sup> Resolution 61/110.

<sup>18</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

its capacity as executive secretariat of the International Committee, towards achieving compatibility and interoperability among global and regional space-based positioning, navigation and timing systems and in the promotion of the use of global navigation satellite systems and their integration into national infrastructure, particularly in developing countries, and notes with appreciation that the International Committee will hold its thirteenth meeting in Xi'an, China, from 4 to 9 November 2018;

24. *Notes with appreciation* that the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, namely, the African regional centres for space science and technology education in the French and English languages, located in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Asia and the Pacific, located in China, the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific, located in India, the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Latin America and the Caribbean, with campuses located in Brazil and Mexico, and the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Western Asia, located in Jordan, have continued their education programmes in 2018, encourages the regional centres to continue to promote greater participation of women in their education programmes, and agrees that the regional centres should continue to report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on their activities;

25. *Emphasizes* that regional and interregional cooperation in the field of space activities is essential to strengthen the peaceful uses of outer space, assist Member States in the development of their space capabilities and contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>2</sup> to that end requests relevant regional organizations and their groups of experts to offer the assistance necessary so that countries can carry out the recommendations of regional conferences, and in that regard notes the importance of the equal participation of women in all fields of science and technology;

26. *Recognizes*, in that regard, the important role played by such organizations as the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization and the European Space Agency and by conferences and other mechanisms, such as the African Leadership Conference on Space Science and Technology for Sustainable Development, the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum and the Space Conference of the Americas, in strengthening regional and international cooperation among States;

27. *Notes with satisfaction* the adoption of the African Space Policy and Strategy by the Assembly of the African Union at its twenty-sixth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2016, and notes that this achievement marks the first step towards the realization of an African outer space programme within the framework of the African Union Agenda 2063;

28. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including strengthening sustainable spatial data infrastructure at the regional and national levels and building resilience to reduce the consequences of disasters, in particular in developing countries;

29. *Reiterates* the need to promote the benefits of space technology and its applications in the major United Nations conferences and summits for economic, social and cultural development and related fields, and recognizes that the fundamental significance of space science and technology and their applications for global, regional, national and local sustainable development processes should be promoted in the formulation of policies and programmes of action and their implementation, including through efforts towards achieving the objectives of those

conferences and summits and in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

30. *Encourages* Member States, to that end, to promote the inclusion in those conferences, summits and processes of the relevance of space science and technology applications and the use of space-derived geospatial data, and in general, space-based data and infrastructures, with the involvement of the Office;

31. *Encourages* the Office to take active part in those conferences, summits and processes and other activities in support of their objectives, as appropriate, and to conduct capacity-building activities, hold lectures and participate in academic and research activities to foster international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space;

32. *Also encourages* the Office to participate in activities with academic and non-governmental organizations and their advisory boards and committees, to foster international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space;

33. *Urges* the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space), under the leadership of the Office, to continue to examine how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and encourages entities of the United Nations system to participate, as appropriate, in UN-Space coordination efforts;

34. *Encourages* the Office to continue to conduct capacity-building and outreach activities associated with space security and transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, as appropriate, and within the context of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities;

35. *Also encourages* the Office to continue exploring existing avenues and new opportunities to increase its capability to meet the growing demand for support to strengthen the capacity of countries, in particular developing countries, in using space science and technology and their applications and to inform the Committee of those efforts;

36. *Agrees* that the Office should pursue greater engagement with industry and private sector entities to further their support for and contributions to the overall work of the Office;<sup>19</sup>

37. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, institutions, industry and private sector entities and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund in support of the United Nations Programme on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in order to support the efforts of the Office to secure additional resources to facilitate the full implementation of its programme of work, including, where appropriate, the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the Office in carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities, in particular for developing countries;

38. *Endorses* the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subcommittees for the period 2020–2021,<sup>20</sup> and agrees that the Committee and its subcommittees should elect their officers at their respective sessions in 2020 in accordance with that composition;

39. *Also endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the European Union, and notes that the European Union will participate in

<sup>19</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/72/20), para. 326.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/73/20), paras. 365–370.

the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies in accordance with General Assembly resolution 65/276 of 3 May 2011;<sup>21</sup>

40. *Further endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the International Organization for Standardization, and to grant the status of observer to the Organization on Space Technologies for Societal Applications (Canada-Europe-United States-Asia) and For All Moonkind in accordance with the procedures of the Committee;<sup>22</sup>

41. *Encourages* the regional groups to promote active participation in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies by the States members of the Committee that are also members of the respective regional groups.

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<sup>21</sup> Ibid., paras. 371–372.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., paras. 374–379.